

C O P Y

3 August 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, AIR FORCE BALLISTIC MISSILE DIVISION  
INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA

SUBJECT: Review of DISCOVERER Program

The Advanced Research Projects Agency is setting up a committee to review the DISCOVERER Program. This committee will consider all aspects of the present DISCOVERER Program and presently planned or programmed future developments. The basic objective of this review is to provide guidance to the Advanced Research Projects Agency for future programming and funding decisions. A second objective is to provide recommendations on changes or additions to the present program that will improve the overall probability of success.

The chairman of this committee will be Mr. N. J. Longfellow, of the AFPD/IDA staff. The committee will consist of: Mr. C. W. Chilcoat, AFPD/IDA; Lt. Col. Paul O. Nadler, ARPA/OSB; Mr. Gerald Smith, ARPA/OSD; and Mr. Eugene Kiefer, ARPA Consultant.

The initial action of this committee will be to review the rocket propulsion on the DISCOVERER satellite vehicle. It is desired that this review be at the Ball Rocket Development Plant in Niagara Falls on August 11. This review will consider static test and flight test performance, reliability tests, future improvements and capabilities, and any other aspects deemed appropriate by the Air Force, the contractor, or ARPA. It is requested that the Bell Corporation be informed of this review by AFM&D.

Subsequent reviews will take place at the Douglas Aircraft Corporation for the Thor booster, and at the Lockheed Missile and Space Division for the remainder of the DISCOVERER system.

John S. Clark  
Rear Adm., USN  
Acting Director

NRO review(s) completed.

COORDINATION:

STAT

Prepared by: [redacted] JSM/  
3 Aug/Rm 3D 173/Ext 74425

